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Celebrity Pg 22

Renée opens up about cancer scare

Inquest jury urges drug detection at city jail

TRACEY TONG
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

DEATH A city jail should use drug-sniffing dogs and other means of detection to prevent deaths like that of inmate Tariq Shah, a coroner's inquest jury said.

The jury yesterday offered three recommendations at the inquest into 28-year-old Shah's March 23, 2007, death at the Ottawa-Carleton Regional Detention Centre. The jury also suggested the centre could help foil drug circulation with random searches and by reducing or eliminating contact between intermittent inmates (those jailed only on weekends) and the regular population.

Shah's cause of death was determined to be an accidental oxycodone fatality with secondary acute pulmonary edema. The inquiry heard earlier the centre's medical staff had not prescribed Shah oxycodone.

"The jury is concerned about the presence of illicit drugs in the possession of inmates, specifically intermittent inmates," read coroner Dr. Louise McNaughton-Filion in the report.

Timeline

- Shah's cellmate at the OCDC found him without vital signs roughly two weeks after he had been transferred from a detention centre in Millhaven.

Cirque du Soleil **Corteo's charms**

ETIENNE RANGER/FOR METRO OTTAWA

Cirque du Soleil's Big Top production, Corteo, opens in Ottawa tonight. Corteo is a festive parade imagined by a clown and it combines the passion of actors with the grace of acrobats, as seen at a rehearsal for the show last night at the St. Laurent Centre.

More coverage, page 4.

PM bucks arts funds

Grits, NDP rap Tory leader's defence of $45-million cut

Prime Minister Stephen Harper may have sparked a culture war in the federal election campaign with his claim yesterday that "ordinary people" don't care about taxpayer subsidies for artists.

Under fire for his government's $45 million in cuts to arts and culture funding, the Conservative leader yesterday said average Canadians have no sympathy for "rich" artists who gather at galas to whine about grants.

"I think when ordinary working people come home, turn on the TV and see a gala of a bunch of people at a rich gala all subsidized by taxpayers claiming their subsidies aren't high enough, when they know those subsidies have actually gone up — I'm not sure that's something that resonates with ordinary people," Harper said while campaigning in Saskatoon.

Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion and NDP Leader Jack Layton accused their Conservative rival of treating arts and culture with contempt.

Dion said the Conservatives "ideologically attack" the arts, while Layton predicted Harper would sell off the CBC and undermine Canadian culture if he wins a majority government Oct. 14.

But Harper shrugged off his opponents as elitists, preoccupied by "a niche issue." He said Conservatives have increased the Department of Canadian Heritage's overall budget by eight per cent, but had to trim some arts funding. "Ordinary people understand we have to live within a budget," he said.

Rejecting the PM's arguments of elitism, Dion said, "Most (artists) need to rent their suit and beautiful dresses at these galas."

TORSTAR/METRO NEWS SERVICES

Election 2008

Online Videos
metronews.ca

Election 2008 p 8, 9
- Heard on the Street
- Mayors demand vision from leaders on cities

Entertainment p 18
Western flicks a lost genre?

Ex-student suspected in school hostage crisis

REGINA Police arrested a suspect after what turned out to be a pellet gun was brought into a Christian school and a hostage situation developed in Regina yesterday.

Luther College principal Mark Anderson said afterwards that he kept talking with the youth, who was holding the school's pastor at gunpoint and making him read a letter.

When he got close enough to see that the weapon was not a real handgun, he grappled with the suspect and held him until police arrived.

Witnesses said a youth who was expelled from the school last year is the suspect.

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High school smokers find their cigarette sources
A new study finds contraband cigarettes are popping up in Ottawa high schools at a brisk rate. Twenty-three per cent of the nearly 1,500 cigarette butts collected from 10 area high schools were found to be illegal rather than store-bought product. CANADIAN CONVENIENCE STORES ASSOCIATION

Ottawa

Arrest in skate park robberies

A 23-year-old Ottawa man has been arrested in connection with a series of teens being robbed at the Centrepointe skateboard park off Baseline Road. Jonathan Cyr faces four counts each of robbery and intimidation after police allege he robbed six students, ages 13 and 14, from a west-end school during the lunch hour Sept. 19. OTTAWA POLICE

Police seek three robbery suspects

SUBMITTED

INVESTIGATION Police have released video images of three convenience store robbery suspects in hopes the public can help to identify them.

At about 9:05 p.m. Sept. 14, three males, one armed with a gun, entered a convenience store on Churchill Avenue. They fled with a quantity of cash and cigarettes.

The first suspect is white and 18 years old with a thin build. He was wearing red pants with a white design, a black hoodie and was armed with a gun held in his right hand.

The second suspect is black and 18 years old with a thin build. He was wearing large-framed glasses, faded blue jeans, a dark hoodie with an orange stripe on the sleeve and orange tie, white T-shirt and was carrying a dark backpack.

The third suspect is black and 18 years old with a thin build. He was wearing dark pants, a black T-shirt, black runners and a white T-shirt wrapped around his head.

Anyone with information can contact Detective Mark Kilby of the Ottawa Police Service Major Crime Robbery Section at 613-235-1222 ext. 5193.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

New monument coming to capital

TIM WIECLAWSKI
tim.wieclawski@metronews.ca

The National Capital Commission has approved the erection of a new, $2-million monument to the Canadian Navy in Ottawa.

Though it's a tight deadline, the NCC is aiming to have the monument built by the autumn of 2010, in time to mark the anniversary of the signing of the Naval Service Act of May 4, 1910, that created the Canadian Navy.

"The navy would like … not only to create a lasting legacy to mark the anniversary, but there is a special relationship between the navy and the capital. This is where the navy was first created," said Sylvie Tilden, director of commemoration, public art and representation with the NCC.

This would be the first major monument of its kind dedicated to one of the three senior elements of the current Canadian Forces.

The Department of National Defence has committed $2-million to the project. The NCC will be managing the project for a 10 per cent management fee and there is a 10 per cent contribution for the perpetual care of the monument.

Given the budget, Tilden estimated the monument might be similar in size to the Aboriginal Veterans Monument in Confederation Park, with a surrounding space large enough to hold ceremonies and events for around 1,000 people.

The navy has indicated it would like the monument situated near water. The NCC has identified seven potential sites in the core, including one near Dow's Lake.

All of the potential locations are on lands owned by the NCC, which has an inventory of 90 sites reserved for commemorations.

The monument's location would dictate it's final design, Tilden said.

"Should it be something iconic and vertical? Should it be horizontal, seen from all sides? All those parameters will have to be established once we narrow down the site," she said.

Presentation

- Details, including the chosen location, will be presented to the NCC board of directors at the Nov. 20-21 meetings.

Costume gala **A flavour of New France**

ETIENNE RANGER/FOR METRO OTTAWA

Four centuries of Canadian history since the 1608 founding of Québec City will be the theme of the Canadian Museum of Civilization's 2008 History Costume Ball Oct. 15, organizers announced yesterday. Re-enactors Pamela Bowles, front, Mark Delorme and Gisèle Marchand displayed the New France flavour of this year's gala fundraiser for the museum.

Arrest made in mysterious shooting case

TRACEY TONG
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

An 18-year-old man arrested in connection with the shooting death of a 71-year-old farmer in St-Sixte appeared in Gatineau court yesterday.

"After analyzing the scene and interviewing many witnesses, police officers arrested an 18-year-old man," said Sûreté du Québec spokeswoman Joyce Kemp.

Simon Lanthier now faces nine charges, including careless use of a firearm.

Police said the shooting allegedly "happened as he was practising his shooting," said Kemp. "One of the shots hit the victim, fatally."

Late Sunday afternoon, Albert Legault, 71, stepped outside of his Montée du Gore home in rural St-Sixte — northeast of Ottawa — to investigate noise of a gunshot. When he failed to return several hours later, a family member went out to look for him and found him lying in a field at the back of the house.

He had been shot with a bullet, police said. He was transported to hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Police brought in a canine unit, a helicopter and ATVs for the search before making an arrest.

Police are reminding people to exercise caution when handling firearms, said Kemp.

"Do it in an area that's secure and away from everyone else," she said.

Illegal ticket sales tick OC Transpo

TIM WIECLAWSKI
tim.wieclawski@metronews.ca

Reports of a rising number of people attempting to sell tickets directly to commuters at bus stops prompted a warning from OC Transpo yesterday.

"You have to be an authorized vendor to sell OC Transpo fare media," said Patrick Curran, OC Transpo's program manager of product management. "Anybody else is subject to a fine because they don't have the right to sell City of Ottawa fare media."

Nixing paper

- OC Transpo will eventually do away with paper tickets through Smartcards, which are scheduled to be used by 2010.

Earlier this week a poster on the OC Transpo Community Live Journal site observed a growing number people trying to re-sell tickets. Curran said OC Transpo is aware of some people who have been approaching riders to sell a pair of tickets valued at $2 for the single-trip, cash fare value of $3.

That, he said, is against the law and OC Transpo constables will investigate complaints made of people selling even just two tickets for profit.

He said tickets are checked daily and while there are a small number of counterfeit tickets circulating, most of the sale offers appear to be of valid, OC-issued tickets. Curran said there has not been a surge in counterfeit bus tickets on Ottawa streets since 2006, when police arrested an organized counterfeiter who had distribution points.

News in brief

PLANNING The City of Gatineau is considering the best way to revitalize Hull's downtown core, hoping to nearly double the population in that sector to 25,000 by 2025. City councillors at consultation meetings this week said they hope residents can help city staff plan the new urban village. "We have to have people living here so that the downtown core is vibrant," Coun. Denise Laferrière said. A residents' association is suggesting medium-density housing rather than high-rise condominiums for the revitalization project. City staff plans to come up with a final proposal for council in December.

CTVOTTAWA.CA

metronews.ca
What's online today.

Watch as the arts take centre stage in the federal election as the party leaders take jabs at Harper for his funding cuts at www.metronews.ca/canada. Also, watch as Green party Leader Elizabeth May calls for action on nuclear proliferation and looks to declare Canada a nuclear-weapons free zone.

Lotteries

Ontario Pick 3	7 4 7
Ontario Pick 4	1 9 8 3
Encore	1274170
Daily Keno	1, 2, 10, 11, 13, 16, 21, 27, 29, 33, 34, 39, 41, 45, 46, 48, 57, 58, 59, 65

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More cash for care

The Quebec government is spending an additional $26 million over the next year to boost health care. New emergency rooms will be built at the Hull, Gatineau and Buckingham hospitals. CTVOTTAWA.CA

Highwire star inspires fear, awe

CitySCapes

Tracey Tong
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

When I met Anastasia Bykovskaya yesterday, I liked her immediately. There was something about her I related to.

We're both 29, and admittedly, not morning people. We've both moved all over to pursue a dream. We both dreamt of running away to join the circus as children. The difference is, she did it.

Walking the line runs in Bykovskaya's family – both of her parents were famous highwire artists in their native Russia. With 43 years in circus life, her father, Veleriy Bykovskiy, now tours with Cirque du Soleil as a show character and his daughter's coach.

Bykovskaya insists that despite her roots, performing was her choice.

"It's exciting to me. There's a lot of adrenaline," said Bykovskaya.

RICHARD TERMINE/CIRQUE DU SOLEIL

Anastasia Bykovskaya performs on the tightwire during Cirque du Soleil's Corteo. The show opens at the St. Laurent Centre tonight.

Bykovskaya is one of 63 artists from 16 countries performing in Corteo, Cirque du Soleil's big top show, opening at the St. Laurent Centre tonight.

"It's a little United Nations of performers," joked Corteo spokesman Maxime Charbonneau.

More than 80,000 people are expected to attend the show, which runs through Oct. 26.

"Corteo's really unique because it's a really human show," said Charbonneau. "There's no heavy makeup and the costumes are very natural, so you see the faces and you see the bodies."

After wrapping her ankles and stretching her legs in the splits, Bykovskaya stands up, gathers three hula-hoops and starts twirling them around her waist. Soon she's separated them into three separate rotations – one each around her chest, waist and her hips.

"It's exciting to me. There's a lot of adrenaline."
Anastasia Bykovskaya

In the main tent, Bykovskaya scales a 30-foot ladder. On bare feet and in pointe shoes, she glides across the wire.

At first, I can't look. She's 30 feet off the ground and will rise to 60 before the show's over. It only gets scarier when she pedals a unicycle across the wire, twirling hula-hoops as she goes.

One of the most appealing things about Bykovskaya is how surprisingly normal she is. She's an awe-inspiring performer and a seasoned traveller to boot – she's been to 25 different countries – and considers home wherever the show is. But at the same time, one senses there's a bit of a homebody in her.

In her spare time she studies Italian, and she is considering a career in interior design after giving up the highwire.

"One day, of course, I have to figure out what I'm going to be in my personal life," she said. "I don't know where I'm going to stay yet."

Metro Ottawa's Tracey Tong is an award-winning reporter. Her Cityscapes column appears every Wednesday.

Top 7 Shows Worldwide
- Billboard magazine (Feb., 2006)
(formerly Chinese New Year Spectacular**)

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Red tape may hinder AIDS aid

Apotex's first shipment of anti-AIDS medication leaves today for Rwanda, but the Canadian drug maker says next year's shipment may be its last because of the amount of red tape involved with Canada's Access to Medicines Regime law. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Canada

World's first Everest jump

At least 34 skydivers from 14 countries, including Canada, will attempt the first parachute jumps over Mount Everest next week, organizers said yesterday. The skydivers plan to jump from an aircraft flying 465 feet above the Everest summit on Oct. 2. Each participant will wear an oxygen mask and carry a larger than normal parachute to help a fast descent through the thin air of the world's highest drop zone. REUTERS

New hurdles for immigrants?

Only 38 jobs qualify under Tory proposal

The federal Conservatives plan to limit acceptance of skilled workers applying to come to Canada to only 38 occupations, a move that will not serve provincial labour needs, says Ontario immigration minister Michael Chan.

The proposed changes, he said, were discussed at a meeting between Immigration Minister Diane Finley and her provincial counterparts in Ottawa earlier this month. Now provinces are concerned they will have to expand their own immigration programs, Chan said.

Those applicants whose occupations are not on the list, he said, would have to apply through provincial "nominee" programs — a move that, in effect, downloads a large part of the immigration burden on to provincial governments.

"The (federal) plan would require economic-class immigrants to clear two hurdles," Chan told a news conference in Toronto yesterday.

One is a new occupational test. The other is the points system which is already in place.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

numbers

- Last year, 131,200 newcomers arrived under Immigration Canada's economic class category.

Calgary **One tiny dino**

REUTERS/TODD KOROL

Nick Longrich, a paleontology research associate in the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Calgary, announces the discovery of North America's smallest dinosaur yesterday in Calgary. The dinosaur is 70 million years old, the size of a chicken, is called Albertonykus borealis and is thought to have survived on a diet of insects.

News in brief

EDUCATION Ontario's Lakehead University announced yesterday that students who enter the school with a 95 per cent average or higher will get free tuition.

WINNIPEG A man who died in the waiting area of a Winnipeg hospital's emergency department may have been dead for some time before staff was alerted — 34 hours after he arrived, CBC News Online reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

4 provinces, 7 states enter climate deal

CARBON TRADING Seven Western U.S. states and four Canadian provinces yesterday proposed a carbon trading program plan designed to reduce global warming pollution by 15 per cent from 2005 levels by 2020.

Now each state and province is to make laws and rules that fit the plan outlined by the Western Climate Initiative (WCI). The goal is to establish in 2012 the biggest carbon market in the Western Hemisphere over a region that includes about 85 million people.

REUTERS

provinces

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Dion against coalition with NDP

Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion has rejected any suggestion of forming a coalition with the NDP after the next election. "Mr. Layton already has his coalition, I understand. He has a coalition with the nudist party, a coalition with the marijuana party," Dion said in Burnaby, B.C. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Election 2008

Heard on the Street: Does the physical appearance of a politician influence your vote?

From Metro newsrooms across Canada

Francine Cleroux
age 47,
Gatineau

A: No. What his platform is is more important than anything else.

Robert Berg
age 27,
Ottawa

A: Yes. If the appearance of a person is not good, I think the person is not taking good care of himself. Someone who looks good takes care of himself and it means they can take care of others better.

Anny Fernandez
age 34,
Ottawa

A: No, not at all. I think what they stand for is more important.

Andrea Cameron
age 19,
Halifax

A: I don't think it matters what they look like, so long as they do what they say they will.

Mary O'Sullivan
age 18,
Montreal

A: No. The way a politician will act as a prime minister depends from his beliefs and ideas. To judge a candidate on how he looks is the same thing as judging him on race or religious beliefs.

Shoilee Khan
age 24,
Toronto

A: No, it does not....When it comes down to it, if someone is standing for something that I believe in and I don't much like the way they look, I'll still vote for them.

Ryan Kusz
age 19,
Calgary

A: I don't pay much attention. I'd probably vote the way my dad told me to, but image, it ain't much to me.

Jesse Hahn
age 24,
Edmonton

A: That's poly-sci 101. It's all about charisma, which is something the public bestows on their leader.

Leanne Holowach
age 23,
Vancouver

A: Definitely. If a politician looks like a crackhead, I won't vote for him. Image is everything in the world we live in.

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	YES	NO
I am feeling sad and depressed.	■	■
I am having difficult sleeping.	■	■
I am feeling low in energy and slowed down.	■	■
My appetite has changed.	■	■
I am experiencing feelings of guilt.	■	■
I have lost interest in work and pleasurable activities.	■	■
I feel hopeless about the future.	■	■
I feel tense and anxious.	■	■
I am having difficulty making decisions.	■	■
I am having trouble concentrating.	■	■

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Mmmmmm ... yogurt
Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion is using some humour to swipe at Stephen Harper's cuts to arts and culture. "A box of yogurt has more culture than this Conservative government," Dion told students gathered at the University of British Columbia yesterday. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Election 2008

Cash

Tories spend like 'drunken sailors'

PROMISES A Liberal government would be hard-pressed to quickly implement its big-ticket campaign promises because Conservatives have spent like "drunken sailors," leaving little left in the federal coffers, a key party official says.

In a private briefing this week to party insiders, Liberal John McCallum, a former cabinet minister and bank economist, admitted the party's ambitious $15-billion agenda would be slowed by the lack of cash.

"Because we have relatively little money, because the Conservatives have emptied the bank account to a large degree and because the economy is weak, some of our initiatives will have to be phased in slower than we had originally planned," he said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

20 days remain until the 2008 Canadian federal election

Harper continues tough talk on crime

Conservative Leader Stephen Harper is rejecting sociologists, criminologists and others "who work in ivory towers" and oppose his get-tough, law-and-order proposals.

CHRIS WATTIE/REUTERS
Prime Minister Stephen Harper greets supporters outside his hotel yesterday in Saskatoon.

"Obviously, some people don't agree with our approach to criminal justice," he said after announcing more stringent crime proposals for the second day in a row.

He said the people who disagree with the Conservatives are the ones who have been advising soft-on-crime policies for 30 or 40 years. And they are wrong, Harper said.

The Conservatives are devising justice measures for ordinary Canadians, not those "who work in ivory towers," he said at a campaign event in Saskatoon.

He announced that if re-elected he would limit judges' ability to hand out conditional sentences to those convicted of robbery, weapons offences and other serious crimes.

"We don't believe that house arrest is a suitable punishment for serious crime," Harper said.

Conservatives said that, if passed by Parliament, this measure over time would increase the number of Canadians in jail.

Arson, kidnappings, drunk driving causing bodily harm or death, drug trafficking and offences related to home invasions are on the list of offences for which conditional sentences would no longer be available under the proposed legislation. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Big-city mayors demand vision from federal leaders

NEEDS Two urban heavyweights — Toronto Mayor David Miller and Montreal Mayor Gérald Tremblay — came together yesterday to demand that federal party leaders pay attention to the needs of cities.

"For once we're speaking (with) one voice, and if we're speaking (with) one voice, can we hear from the five leaders?" an impassioned Tremblay told a news conference at Montreal City Hall. "Do they believe in the future of cities? Do they want us to share a long-term vision of the future of Canada?"

The issue isn't cities seeking money from Ottawa, Miller said. "It's about the future success of Canada and Canadians." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

CONTROVERSY B.C. NDP candidate Julian West has called it quits over a controversial naked swim. West said his nude hijinks were becoming a distraction to NDP Leader Jack Layton's national campaign. While Layton had steadfastly defended West, West said his naked 1996 romp as a 32-year-old environmentalist at a youth conference was too much to overcome. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Man get 20 years for MP3 killing

A Belgian court yesterday jailed a Polish man for 20 years for fatally stabbing a teenager who refused to hand over an MP3 player during a robbery, ending a trial which gripped the country. Rather than finding Adam Giza guilty of murder, the jury opted for the lesser charge of "violent theft leading to death." REUTERS

World/Business

China vows milk export crackdown

CRISIS China vowed to stop toxic milk from reaching processors and export markets after tainted infant powder made more than 54,000 children sick in a scandal that has mired the nation's trade reputation in a fresh crisis.

Facts

- Two more children in Hong Kong were found to be sick after consuming toxic Chinese milk powder, bringing the total there to four.

Milk powder laced with the industrial chemical melamine has led to nearly 13,000 Chinese infants being admitted to hospital, 104 in a serious condition with kidney stones and agonizing complications. Four have died in past months.

Sudan says it has located hostages

KIDNAPPING Sudanese authorities have located a group of kidnappers and the 19 hostages they seized in Egypt last week but have no plans for a rescue attempt that could endanger them, a Sudanese official said yesterday.

Masked kidnappers snatched the hostages — including 11 Westerners — from a desert safari near Egypt's southern border with Sudan and Libya on Friday. REUTERS

Gunman left trail of hatred on Internet

Finland school rampage leaves 11 dead

Student gunman Matti Saari, who killed 10 people at a Finnish school yesterday before shooting himself, left a trail of Internet postings about hatred and revenge.

But according to a former classmate, the 22-year-old travel and restaurant trade student from the western Finnish town of Kauhajoki bore no resemblance to the loner profile of many mass murderers.

Matti Saari

"He was happy, a social guy — there was nothing exceptional — he got along with people well and he was not lonely. He had friends" and was easy to talk to, said Susanna Keronen, trying to fathom what might have led him to take such drastic action.

In his profile on the irc-gallery social networking site, Saari, who lived alone with his cat, billed himself as a committed misanthrope. Other entries touted war and revenge.

Police, alerted to video footage posted on the Internet showing Saari firing a gun, questioned him only the day before the rampage, Interior Minister Anne Holmlund said.

She gave no details of the interview, but said police did not ask him to surrender the gun because they decided he had made no specific threats.

Saari's postings were strikingly similar to those of Jokela high school student Pekka-Eric Auvinen, who shot dead eight people last November after posting a video telegraphing his plans. REUTERS

KOTA AMBEE/AMERICA WORLD NEWS

A group of teenaged girls place candles near the Kauhajoki vocational school yesterday, hours after a lone gunman entered the facility and killed 10 students and then himself.

Business

Bank CEO pay falls with company fortunes

The global financial crisis has taken a big bite out of Wall Street pay packets, with top bankers losing hundreds of millions of dollars as stock prices collapse.

The chief executives of Wall Street's biggest banks get the lion's share of their pay in stock and stock options. So when the banks' share prices take a dive, so too do their fortunes.

Shareholders want to ensure executives run the company well, said David Wyss, chief economist at Standard & Poor's. "The easiest way to do that is to make sure his pay rises and falls depending on the success or failure of the company. And here we see what happens when the company fails," he said.

Dick Fuld, CEO of now-bankrupt Lehman Brothers, watched more than $740 million US drain out of his personal fortune as the Lehman share price plunged from a 52-week high of $67.35 US to almost nothing.

Lloyd Blankfein, CEO of Goldman Sachs lost nearly half a billion US from his bank account as the firm felt the crisis' effects.

Merrill Lynch CEO John Thain saw his holdings lose more than $51 million US while Morgan Stanley's John Mack said goodbye to more than $123 million US in value on paper.

JAMES DORAN/METRO WORLD NEWS

UN looks for answers to crisis

MARKET CRISIS As U.S. President George W. Bush gave his farewell speech to the United Nations yesterday, he faced criticism at the annual General Assembly over the global capitalism that the U.S. has long pushed as the path to economic prosperity. Leaders demanded overhaul and accountability. REUTERS

In brief

MARKET CRISIS Top Canadian bankers said at a conference that they predict a slowdown in lending amid tougher criteria, higher borrowing costs and lower retail revenue.

CRITICISM Former Canadian Auto Workers leader Buzz Hargrove says Canada relies too heavily on resource industries and ignores the manufacturing sector. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

STUDY The rate of HIV infection among people who inject themselves with drugs appears to be rising, according to a study published today. An estimated 3 million self-injecting drug users worldwide may be HIV positive, said the analysis of peer-reviewed studies and data from UN agencies and international experts. The researchers estimated that in 2007 nearly 16 million people around the world injected drugs. REUTERS

METRO Ottawa

130 Slater Street, Suite 300
Ottawa, ON K1P 6E2
Tel: 613-236-5058
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Advertising: 613-236-5058
adinfoottawa@metronews.ca
Distribution inquiries:
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Local:
Publisher, C. Dave Kruse
Managing Editor, Derek Gordanier
derek.gordanier@metronews.ca
Marketing Manager, Ian Clark
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National:
Group Publisher, Bill McDonald
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Coyotes add Muckler to front office
The Phoenix Coyotes have hired former Ottawa Senators GM John Muckler as senior advisor to the general manager. A five-time Stanley Cup winner, Muckler has more than 50 years of professional hockey experience. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

Parker out at least one game

The Pittsburgh Steelers will be without Pro Bowl running back Willie Parker, left, when they battle division rival Baltimore on Monday night. The club announced yesterday that Parker will miss the contest against the Ravens with a sprained left knee he suffered in Sunday's 15-6 loss to the Philadelphia Eagles. Parker has rushed for 263 yards on 66 carries with three touchdowns this season for Pittsburgh. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Lions giving York a bad name

Football coach McLean blunt in assessment of team's chances

YorkReport

Marty York

marty.york@metronews.ca

"Marty," the e-mail started, "you might want to change your name, or start a petition for York University to change its name."

The e-mailer didn't need to elaborate. I got the point immediately. York, after all, not only happens to be my surname, but my alma mater, too. And York's football team is absolutely dreadful. After four games this season, the Lions are 0-4 and have been outscored by an aggregate total of — brace yourself — 240-17.

York's new head coach, ex-Edmonton Eskimos linebacker Mike McLean, makes no attempts to camouflage his team's deficiencies. I asked him yesterday if it is likely that York will record a winless season.

"Yes, it is," he said.

Does he see light at the end of the tunnel?

"It'll take time to get there," he said. "We inherited players who have old habits they need to break and we need to do some good recruiting (in the off-season)."

McLean, who never missed the CFL playoffs during his Eskimos career (1986 to 1992), took a winless Edmonton Huskies team before he ultimately coached it to the Canadian Junior Football League championship a few years back. He hopes to record a similar turnaround with York. In the meantime, though, York's follies are depressing him. They're not doing much for me, either.

Coaching mentors

- Mike McLean played for three head coaches in Edmonton — Jackie Parker, Joe Faragalli and Ron Lancaster. All are deceased.

• Yankee Stadium is history but, in his late '90s, legendary public-address announcer Bob Sheppard is not.

Sheppard's battling health issues, but he was able to participate in the stadium's closing ceremonies Sunday night by recording the Yankees' lineup from home. He plans to be announcing at the new Yankee Stadium next season, but get this:

Thanks to modern technology, Sheppard may be introducing lineups at Yankee Stadium long after we're all gone. Computer wizards are working with Sheppard this week to record his voice so that, down the road, he will be able to make announcements for eternity at Yankee Stadium.

• Steiner Sports, which has partnered with the Yankees to sell stadium memorabilia, is offering a 30-by-18-inch piece of the centre-field scoreboard for $699 US and a 10-by-10-foot hunk of blue carpet from the clubhouse for $10,000. Also on the block are five glass shower-stall doors from the clubhouse for $2,000 apiece … Yankees captain Derek Jeter was spotted celebrating at a New York bar the other night with a bevy of lovely young ladies and a few rounds of $200-a-glass Remy Martin Louis XIII … And the Tampa Bay Rays celebrated their first post-season qualification in their clubhouse last week with, believe it or not, 25 cases of beer and 212 bottles of champagne.

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

SCOREBOARD

MLB

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

AMERICAN LEAGUE
N.Y. Yankees 3 Toronto 1
Boston 5 Cleveland 4
Kansas City 5 Detroit 0
Tampa Bay 5 Baltimore 2 (1st gm)
Oakland at Texas
Chicago White Sox at Minnesota
Tampa Bay at Baltimore (2nd gm)
L.A. Angels at Seattle

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Atlanta 3 Philadelphia 2
N.Y. Mets 6 Chicago Cubs 2
Washington 9 Florida 4
Pittsburgh at Milwaukee
Cincinnati at Houston
Arizona at St. Louis
San Diego at L.A. Dodgers
Colorado at San Francisco

TODAY'S GAMES

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Oakland at Texas, 2:05
Cleveland at Boston, 7:05
Kansas City at Detroit, 7:05
Tampa Bay at Baltimore, 7:05
N.Y. Yankees at Toronto, 7:07
Chicago W. Sox at Minnesota 8:10
L.A. Angels at Seattle, 10:10

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Atlanta at Philadelphia, 7:05
Chicago Cubs at N.Y. Mets, 7:10
Florida at Washington, 7:10
Cincinnati at Houston, 8:05
Pittsburgh at Milwaukee, 8:05
Arizona at St. Louis, 8:15
San Diego at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10
Colorado at San Francisco, 10:15

CFL

WEEK 14

FRIDAY'S GAME
Edmonton at Winnipeg, 8

SATURDAY'S GAMES
Calgary at Toronto, 7
Hamilton at B.C., 10

SUNDAY'S GAME
Saskatchewan at Montreal, 1

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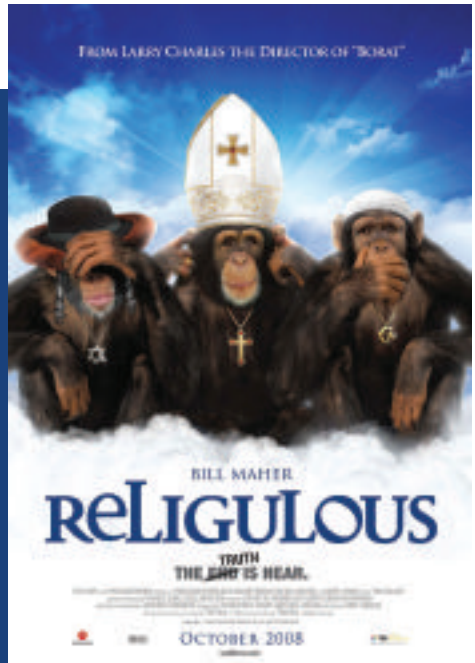

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IN THEATRES OCTOBER 3RD

Automotive

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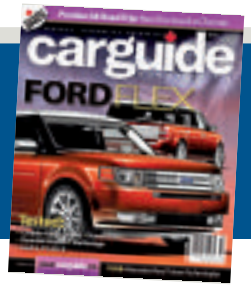

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Subaru lands a knockout

Revamped Impreza adds some pizzazz to a reliable ride

LORNE DRURY
for Metro Canada

Subaru has built a reputation over the years of producing safe, reliable, and functional vehicles.

While far from being disasters in the styling arena, most Subarus have never had what you would call that "knockout" punch when it comes to looks. Much like the Volvos of yesteryear, Subaru became know for solid, dependable vehicles that tended to blend in with the crowd and didn't set hearts aflutter.

But that appears to be changing as a look at Subaru's 2008 Impreza lineup will attest.

I recently spent a few days with the Impreza 2.5i five-door hatchback, decked out with the fancy Sport Package, and it was impressive both from a looks and performance standpoint.

The Impreza is an all-new car for 2008 and the 2.5i Sport five-door is the best looking model in the lineup in my opinion. Subarus may be changing from a design standpoint, but they continue to offer what has made them popular in the first place, functionality and, of course, their trademark all-wheel drive feature standard on all models.

On the five-door models, Subaru's new design for the Impreza features a sweeping roof line curve that flows into an aerodynamic rear spoiler. Front and centre is Subaru's new spread-wing logo design at the top of the wider grille. There's also a character line sweeping upward at the rear that produces a distinctive look.

The interior of the Subaru Impreza has more hip and shoulder room than previous models.

Now in its third generation, the Impreza for 2008 comes in both four-door sedan (unique to the North American market) and five-door hatchback body styles with a choice of five-speed manual or four-speed automatic transmission with Sportshift. Both sedan and five-door are available with the Sport Package or turbocharged WRX option.

The basic powerplant is a 2.5-litre Boxer engine, delivering 170 hp and 170 lb/ft of torque. The WRX gets the 2.5-litre with a turbocharger and double overhead cams to produce 224 hp and 226 lb/ft of torque.

Prices start at $20,695 for the 2.5i sedan with manual transmission. The 2.5i five-door is $21,595, while the 2.5i sedan with Sport Package is $23,195 and the five-door Sport is $24,895. The WRX sedan with manual is $32,995 and the WRX five-door prices out at $33,895. Add $1,100 for the automatic transmission.

2008 Subaru Impreza

Type: Sedan
Price: $20,695-$33,895
Engine: 2.5 four-cylinder
HP: 170-226

Highlights

- All-wheel drive
- Comfortable cabin
- Roll-back prevention

Standard features on all Imprezas include anti-lock braking system (ABS) with electronic brake-force distribution (EBD), front disc and rear drum brakes, driver and front passenger front and side-impact airbags and side curtain airbags, 16-inch steel wheels, power heated mirrors, AM/FM/MP3/WMA audio system with four speakers, air conditioning, cruise control, 60/40 split folding rear seats and cloth upholstery.

The Sport Package adds rear disc brakes, brake assist, vehicle dynamics control system and traction control, 16-inch aluminum alloy wheels, body colour door handles, halogen fog lamps, windshield wiper de-icer, leather wrapped steering wheel and gear selector, heated front seats and an enhanced audio system.

My time with the Impreza was uneventful from a weather standpoint, so I really had little chance to put the symmetrical all-wheel drive system to the test.

Subaru offers two types of all-wheel drive systems on the Impreza that are mated to the manual or automatic transmission.

In both cases, the system reacts to wheel slippage and power is supplied to the wheels with the best traction.

Inside, the cabin is comfortable with more hip and shoulder room than on previous models. The door opening has also been enlarged to make it easier to get in and out. A longer wheelbase 9.5 cm (3.7 inches) results in more rear seat legroom.

A new feature is a Hill Holder Incline Start Assist to prevent vehicle roll-back, standard on 2.5i Sport and WRX models equipped with manual transmissions.

Competitive pricing, a new emphasis on design and Subaru's continued refinement of the mechanical components, make the 2008 Impreza a solid choice in the compact segment, which made up more than 25 per cent of all vehicles sold in Canada last year.

Ecolumination technology, developed by Ceravision Ltd., uses microwaves to power electrode-less bulbs.

An illuminating idea in lighting

Ceravision Ltd., the company working on the ultra energy-efficient Ecolumination lighting range, recently partnered with leading English motor racing team to demonstrate its automotive lighting system.

A set of headlights was fitted to a BMW race car and tested at Silverstone, the home of the British F1 Grand Prix.

Ceravision's Ecolumination technology is a revolutionary, high-quality, low-cost, energy-efficient lighting system, which uses microwave technology to power electrode-less bulbs.

The bulbs are simple to adapt to existing designs and are mercury-free. Ecolumination is leading innovation in the global lighting industry, bringing new levels of efficiency and quality to both indoor and outdoor lighting.

With the success of the initial testing, Ceravision is now seeking development partners in the automotive lighting industry to bring the headlights rapidly to market.

The system is available for licensing by qualified manufacturers.

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*On all 2009 models. Compared to MSRP for 2008, same model. **MSRP for a 2009 Murano 3.5 S AWD (L6RG19 AA00), CVT transmission/ 2009 Altima Coupe 2.5 S (T2RG59 AA00), manual transmission/ 2009 Xterra S 4x4 (8CLG59 AA00), manual transmission/ 2009 Armada LE-V8 4x4 (7CTG79 AA00), automatic transmission/ 2009 Altima Hybrid 2.5 S (T4HG19 AA00), CVT transmission/ 2009 Rogue 2.5 S FWD (W6RG19 AA00), CVT transmission/ 2009 Versa Hatchback 1.8 S (B5LG59 AA00), manual transmission/ 2009 Frontier King Cab XE 4x2 (2KLG59 AA00), manual transmission/ 2009 Maxima 3.5 SV (U4SG19 AA00), CVT transmission/ 2009 Titan King Cab XE 4x2 (1KAG79 AA00), automatic transmission / 2009 Altima Sedan 2.5 S (T4RG59 AA00), manual transmission/ 2009 Pathfinder S 4x4 (5CRG79 AA00), automatic transmission. †$47,498 MSRP for a 2009 Murano LE AWD (L6SG19 AA00), CVT transmission/ $29,798 MSRP for a 2009 Altima Coupe 3.5 SE (T2SG59 AA00), manual transmission/$36,398 MSRP for a 2009 Xterra SE (8CSG79 AA00), automatic transmission/ $30,698 MSRP for a 2009 Rogue SL AWD model w/Premium Package (Y6SG19 BK00), CVT transmission/ $16,498 MSRP for a 2009 Versa Hatchback 1.8 SL (B5RG59 AA00) manual transmission/ $31,798 MSRP for a 2009 Frontier PRO-4X King Cab (4KVG59 AA00), manual transmission/ $39,950 MSRP for a 2009 Maxima 3.5 SV w/Sport Package (U4SG19 SP00), CVT transmission/ $35,098 MSRP for a 2009 Titan King Cab SE 4x2 SWB (1KCG79 AA00), automatic transmission / $29,498 MSRP for a 2009 Altima Sedan 3.5 SE (T4SG59 AA00), manual transmission/ $40,698 MSRP for a 2009 Pathfinder SE 4x4 (5CSG79 AA00), automatic transmission. Destination and PDE charges ($1,500)/ ($1,400)/ ($1,500)/ ($1,550)/ ($1,400)/ ($1,500)/ ($1,325)/ ($1,440)/ ($1,425)/ ($1,450)/ ($1,400)/ ($1,500), license, registration, insurance, duties and applicable taxes (including excise tax and fuel conservation tax, where applicable) are extra. All prices are subject to change without notice. Retailer may sell for less.

Mazda creates a big beauty

Crossover CX-9 makes a family drive more fun and less stressful

MICHAEL GOETZ
for Metro Canada

The Mazda CX-9 GT came to class ready for anything we could throw at it. And when it graduated, the crossover vehicle was sporting a very impressive report card.

The CX-9 is Mazda's largest vehicle. Now that minivans aren't cool enough — and many automakers, like Mazda, no longer feel the need to offer one — the seven-seater CX-9 fills the role as the brand's premier people mover.

It's based on the Mazda 6 platform, which has been modified and massaged for its new duty. It shares the 273-hp 3.7-litre V6 doing duty in the Lincoln MKS, and said V6 is hooked up to a six-speed Aisin automatic transmission.

The most inexpensive CX-9 is the FWD GS model, at about $39,995. But ours was the most expensive CX-9 in the catalogue — a fully optioned GT model ($51,710).

GT models start the proceedings at about $46,825; its most notable enhancement over GS models is the lovely 20-inch wheel and tire set. Our baby also got AWD ($2,000), DVD system with Bose 5.1 surround-sound stereo with 11 speakers and wireless headphones ($2,675), and a package that included copious luxury bits, navigation with Bluetooth, and rear-view camera ($1,520).

We won't list the standard safety and convenience features, because, believe us, it's not lacking in any.

Beauty is always in the eye of the beholder, so go and behold yourself, but we think Mazda did a great job in marrying sporty details into a sleek people-mover format.

Topping our lists of positives is styling. Beauty is always in the eye of the beholder, so go and behold yourself, but we think Mazda did a great job in marrying sporty details — like those lights, wheels and integrated exhaust tips — into a sleek people-mover format.

The look and feel of the inside of the vehicle also garnered its share of raves. The faux wood used throughout the cabin is a dark, heavily lacquered variety, symbolic of a type found in traditional Japanese art work.

However, while touch-screen controls are cool and high tech, most of us would still prefer durable and easy-to-reach controls for items that need frequent adjusting. And while the wrap-around centre console is beautiful to behold, a few of us thought it made the cabin feel less spacious.

Customers more obsessed with chassis dynamics will also be pleasantly surprised. The vehicle performs better than its size and weight would indicate. The CX-9 wouldn't be anyone's first choice for doing a mach schnell around the Nurburgring, but for a big crossover it steers and handles as good as any.

The front seats and driving position were also praised. They are crucial cogs in the CX-9's prowess as a long-haul specialist. Also, the DVD player/babysitter (with wireless headphones) might have a little hand in keeping the stress levels down on long family rides.

The second row is 60/40 split-bench affair that can slide fore and aft, so there is a ton of legroom to be had back there. This is a very long vehicle; so not surprisingly, there is more than an average amount of cargo space behind that second row, and behind the third row as well, when that row is up and/or in use.

The second-row bench is very well designed, but if your family is six or less, two captain chairs in the back would be more comfy, keep sibling skirmishes down, and make third-row access better (at least for small fry.)

Fuel economy is not stellar, but this shouldn't be a big shock as the CX-9 is what it is — a big crossover. Energuide ratings are: 14.0 L/100 km city, 9.7 L/100 km hwy. And note that you pay a discernable premium for AWD: the FWD CX-9 is rated at 13.2 L/100 km City, 9.0 L/100 km Hwy.

If you need the room and seven-passenger seating, you need to have this vehicle on your shopping list. Its attributes are substantial, its indiscretions minor. Our gang loved it.

2009 Mazda CX-9

Type: Crossover
Price: $39,995-$46,825
Engine: 3.5 V6
HP: 263

Highlights

- Spacious
- Attractive styling
- Long-haul specialist

Dewar win celebrated by Cadillac fans

Cadillac fans and owners congregated on September 21 at the Brooklands Museum in Surrey, England to celebrate the legendary American brand's first Dewar Trophy win, which took place at the site 100 years ago.

More than 40 UK-based vintage Cadillacs from the brand's 106-year history were on display and joined by the latest generation of cars on sale in the U.K..

Cadillac won the Dewar Trophy in 1908 after Englishman Fred Bennett persuaded the Royal Automobile Club to oversee an unprecedented mechanical standardization test. Three identical Cadillac models were dismantled, their parts mixed up and the cars reassembled under strict regulations.

Each car then ran without fault for 500 miles around the Brooklands track, stunning the watching media. With the award went the judges' citation: Standard of the World. A phrase coined by Cadillac to this day.

The Royal Automobile Club conceived the Dewar Trophy in 1905 to promote technical progress in the automotive field.

The award is held in as high regard today as it was in the earliest years of the 20th century.

Wilfred Leland Jr., the grandson of Henry Leland, Cadillac co-founder, is shown sitting in the Dewar Trophy shortly the 1908 win.

System developed to stop driver fatigue

Mercedes-Benz has developed the innovative driver support system Attention Assist.

It is able to recognize driver fatigue at an early stage and warn the driver that a break is called for soon.

The system will enter series production in spring 2009.

Scientific studies indicate that overtired drivers cause around 25 per cent of all serious accidents occurring on motorways. In other words, this accident cause is of even more significance than

During long-distance journeys in the dark, or under unchanging conditions at a constant cruising speed, the risk of the "one-second nap" is greatest because the driver's attention lapses and monotony increases the danger of falling asleep even further.

Studies have shown that the reaction times of drivers can be 50 per cent longer after only four hours of non-stop driving.

The risk of an accident is doubled after this length of time, and after six hours of driving it is no less than eight times as high.

SE model shown, MSRP $15,770

The new incredibly fuel-efficient **2009 PONTIAC G3 WAVE.** That's right. No matter what you're driving right now, you're probably spending more time with the gas pump than you want to. Maybe you need to start hanging around with a G3 Wave. With 5.7L/100 KM on the highway and 7.9L/100 KM in the city[1], it's certainly not going to strengthen your relationship with the gas pump, but honestly, what did that old pump really do for you, anyway? The G3 Wave, on the other hand will give you an auxiliary audio input jack, five star rating for frontal impact[2], available side-impact airbags, optional OnStar® and the best coverage in Canada[3]. So go ahead, break old pumpy's heart. And never look back. **Cash Purchase Price at $9,995.***

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Beautiful beer

It's time for Munich's Oktoberfest, so get out your beer steins, sausage knives and lederhosen. This is the perfect opportunity to boast a beer belly whilst drinking ice-cold Bavarian beer. Oktoberfest Munich will run from Sept. 20 - Oct. 5. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Travel

Naumi Hotel in Singapore sure knows how to treat a lady. An entire floor of this boutique hotel will be dedicated to women on their business travels and serviced by female staff. METRO WORLD NEWS

TRAVELDESK@METRONEWS.CA

Holiday in Cambodia

48 hours in ancient empire, tourist boomtown

Got 48 hours to explore the ruins of the ancient Angkor empire? This guide will help visitors make the most of the temples and Siem Reap, the tourist town booming in the shadow of Angkor Wat, a 12th century Hindu-Buddhist temple synonymous with Cambodia visited by more than two million tourists a year.

SATURDAY

7 a.m. — After a quick breakfast, head for the Bayon temple. Its 200 enormous faces smiling down on visitors from stone towers is a must-see.

11 a.m. — Avoid the midday sun with a detour to the National Centre for Khmer Ceramics Revival, where potters recreate ancient Khmer pottery using clay from the nearby hills and fire them in a giant kiln.

12.30 p.m. — Go to Amok Restaurant in Siem Reap for a fish amok, the Khmer curry made by steaming the coconut-based dish in a banana leaf.

1.30 p.m. — Wander around the airconditioned shops selling silks and trinkets. For the colourful cotton "krama" or gingham check scarves worn by Khmer Rouge fighters, head to the Old Market.

3.30 p.m. — For a quick and unusual snack, try the fried crickets and other creepy crawlies sold on the Siem Reap River bridge. For those less adventurous, try Blue Pumpkin's banana ginger tart and iced coffee.

4 p.m. — "Tomb Raider" fans will relish the overgrown jungle setting of Ta Prohm temples with its moss-covered walls.

7 p.m. — Catch the latest archaeology gossip with the French team at the Laundry Bar or with the Japanese at Cafe Moi Moi.

8 p.m. — Dine at Le Malraux, a bistrot named after a French explorer in the early 1900s. Confit de canard will help you enjoy the atmosphere of Indochina of bygone years.

10 p.m. — Follow the neon lights and noise emanating from places like the Sok San Palace and Sokha Entertainment Club, and dance, sing and gamble with young Cambodians.

SUNDAY

7.30 a.m. — The Old Market offers interesting Khmer breakfast: rice porridge, duck noodles and sticky rice steamed in banana leaf packets.

8 a.m. — Drive out to Kbal Spean or the Valley of the 1,000 Lingas for a hike to a myriad of stone lingas carved into the riverbed and boulders on the banks.

1.30 p.m. — Have lunch in Siem Reap. The Indian restaurant serves excellent dosas — thin and crispy.

2.30 p.m. — Watch weaving masters at the Institute of Khmer Traditional Textiles spin, dye and weave silk textiles at their workshop on the edge of town.

4 p.m. — Ancient architecture buffs can study the differences between the 9th century Bakong and Preah Ko temples and Angkor Wat, which was built centuries later.

6 p.m. — Let a masseuse knead the knots away at Chai Massage on the road to Angkor Wat.

7 p.m. — Enjoy one last gin and tonic before your journey home at the Foreign Correspondents Club. It's near the river and the garden is the perfect place for a drink. REUTERS

Ljubljana just lovely

TheTravelJunkie

Ljubljana. With some 50,000 university students living in the city, the vibe is abuzz with youth, culture and nightlife. Who knew that the Slovenian capital city I can hardly pronounce would turn out to be one of the hippest spots in Europe.

I ended up in Slovenia, one of the smallest countries in Central Europe, as a result of "Plan B". I was originally supposed to travel to Georgia but, as the tanks rolled in, it probably wasn't the best time to visit.

Anxious for an alternative place to explore, Slovenia seemed like a good choice. I'd fly from Istanbul direct to Ljubljana, the city with a jumble of consonants in a country I knew very little about.

There's something really nice about Ljubljana. It has that manageable, small city feeling, with all the perks of a big one. From theatre, to art, fine dining restaurants to trendy boutiques, it fulfills all my requirements of "cool." Most importantly, it's a backpacker-friendly location with a well-established tourist infrastructure and lots of English speakers.

The landscape, carved with canals and bicycle paths, reminds me of Amsterdam, minus the tacky souvenirs, sleazy sex shops and legalized pot cafés.

Ljubljana's Old Town is rich with Baroque, Gothic and Art Nouveau architecture. Footpaths lead to historic castles, frescoes decorate cathedrals, bronze dragon statues guard bridges. But beyond the architecture and famous monuments, it's a chill place with tons of outdoor cafés, perfect for people watching. Down a strip of cobblestones, a parade of scenesters saunter past. Women with big scarves smoke skinny cigarettes. Men rock effeminate styles, oversized sunglasses and the occasional Euro mullet.

Though guidebooks say 'your hair doesn't have to be pink to fit in,' I argue that it sure does help.

For the anti-commercial scene, Metelkova is the place to be. An autonomous zone for off-the-wall artistic expression, this outdoor urban space is devoted to counter-culture. Amidst the graffiti walls and squat-like surroundings, there are bars, a few gay clubs, performing art spaces and music venues playing everything from punk to reggae.

The area has an anarchist aura, with anti-police graffiti and rockers in black. Though guidebooks say "your hair doesn't have to be pink to fit in," I argue that it sure does help.

Rastas strum guitars, angst-ridden teenagers mope, pit bulls frolic as their tattooed owners drink absinthe. Meltelkova is a must visit.

Julia Dimon is co-host of Word Travels, airing on OLN; juliadimon.com.

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MTV picks up Hills spinoff

A much-talked-about Hills spinoff featuring Whitney Port has been officially picked up by MTV, sources confirm to E! News exclusively. "They will start shooting immediately," says a show source. The series is to start airing in early 2009. **E! NEWS ONLINE**

Entertainment

Keira talks Scott

Keira Knightley is in talks to play the wife of novelist F. Scott Fitzgerald in a new biopic. The film, The Beautiful and the Damned, will look at the relationship between the author and Zelda Sayre. **BBC NEWS ONLINE**

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

Clooney not likley to return to ER

CASTING The producers of hospital drama ER are hoping to entice George Clooney back for the show's upcoming final season, even though Clooney has said he's not interested in putting his scrubs on one more time, Reuters reports.

Executive producer David Zabel says story lines had been dreamed up for the show's 15th and last season for major past characters.

90210 picked up for full season

TV 90210 has been picked up for a full season of episodes, usmagazine.com reports. "We're very excited about the chance to watch this ensemble of newcomers and familiar faces coalesce and grow together as we move forward," said Dawn Ostroff, President of Entertainment at The CW.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

The state of the western

PHILIP BROWN
for Metro Canada

One of the best westerns to ride onto screens in years, Ed Harris' new film Appaloosa does a surprisingly good job of reviving and updating the genre — but whether it will strike gold with audiences is another story

There was a time when Hollywood produced a saddle-full of westerns, but by the late '60s the genre was pretty much dead.

Directors like Sam Peckinpah (The Wild Bunch) and Sergio Leone (The Good, The Bad, And The Ugly) created revisionist westerns that toyed with the formula and excited new audiences, yet it almost felt as if there was no where left to go in the genre once they were done with it.

There have been numerous attempts to revive the western since then, the most successful being Clint Eastwood's 1992 masterpiece Unforgiven. The film was easily one of the most thought provoking and interesting examples of the genre, sparking a wave of new westerns in the '90s including Jim Jarmusch's quietly brilliant Dead Man, Sam Raimi's kinetic The Quick And The Dead, and the blockbuster Western Tombstone.

They were all solid films, but none was successful enough to breathe new life into the genre. Since then, there has been a new western every few years, but sadly nothing that generated much commercial interest.

Appaloosa — starring actor Viggo Mortensen — is riding high-in-the-saddle among critics and western fans.

Last year's 3:10 To Yuma proved that westerns could still be bankable, but the success of that movie had more to do with the combined star power of Russell Crowe and Christian Bale than anything else.

The amazing HBO series Deadwood is one of the most remarkable westerns ever created, but despite a cavalcade of awards and critical acclaim it never had much of an audience and was cancelled before reaching the planned concluding fourth season.

Surprisingly, some of the most entertaining westerns to be produced in recent years are wild pop-art experiments to emerge from Asia, including Takashi Miike's Sukiyaki Western Django, and Ji-Woon Kim's upcoming The Good, The Bad, And The Weird.

However, as fun as these movies are, they won't have much impact on this quintessentially American genre.

As long as there are filmmakers with a sense of the history of cinema, there will be westerns, but unfortunately it doesn't look like genre will ever be commercially viable again. The days of John Ford have past and they may never return.

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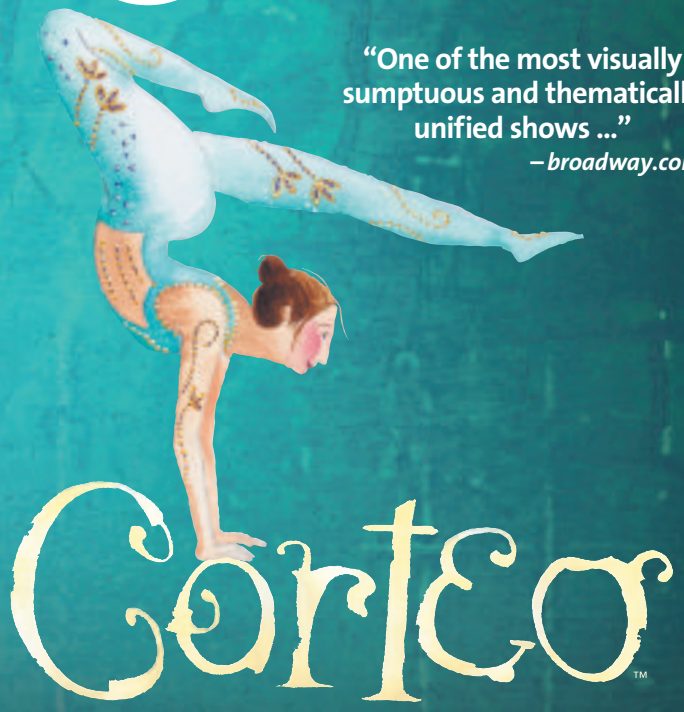

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Wilson to take bite out of vampire movie

Actor Owen Wilson will feature in and produce Blood Brothers, a comedy centred around the friendship between a man and a vampire. Wilson is reportedly going to play the straight man, with his blood-sucking friend yet to be cast. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

One thing is certain: Uncertainty fuels life

HineSight

Anne Hines

Today, I want to talk about uncertainty. I'm just not entirely sure what to say about it.

What started me thinking about this was that this past week I learned of a serious problem inherent in bar stools. My friend, Belle, broke her ankle by falling off one.

Some people might ask, "Was she dancing on the stool at the time?" or "Had she had a few?" Which just goes to show they don't know Belle. Of course she wasn't dancing on the stool. And of course she'd had a few.

One might argue that the fall was not entirely the stool's fault. But the fact is this tragedy could have been averted if the manufacturer had simply affixed a label saying something like, "Wrapping your foot around this stool in a rather fetching, coquettish manner and then forgetting to unwrap it when you stand up may cause injury."

Instead, we all have to live with the knowledge that bar stool-related unpleasantness could happen at any time.

I don't like uncertainty. It makes me feel … uncertain. A lot of people share this feeling. That's why we turn to paid experts who can assure us of what the future holds. Depending on what amount we're prepared to spend, these professionals are called either financial advisers or telephone psychics.

I consulted a palm reader once. She charged me $40 and told me I'm destined to spend money foolishly. I left thinking she was right.

"Life will surprise us. And that's a good thing."

We want our world to be predictable and stable. The problem is that a) it isn't and b) well, that's it really. And, it's not just what's around us, it's also what's inside us that can turn on a dime.

A few years ago, I was sitting in a boardroom waiting to start a meeting. A woman I had never met walked into the room. I thought, "Oh my God. I'm gay." I'm not the only person to have this happen.

Comedian Rosie O'Donnell reports she was motoring home after getting her driver's licence when she was struck by this same realization. Personally, I'm glad I wasn't operating heavy machinery at the time.

Sometimes uncertainty feels like falling off a bar stool and sometimes it feels like falling in love. In any case, no warning label can prepare us for the jolts and joys that lie ahead. Life will surprise us. And that's a good thing.

I'm certain.

Anne Hines is an author and humour writer. She has written three novels and one collection of nonfiction humour.

Duffy chosen to cover McCartney

CHARITY Soulful British crooner Duffy is set to cover a Wings song after being hand-picked by Sir Paul McCartney, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Duffy will cover Live and Let Die for Heroes, a new fundraising album for War Child, which sees veteran artists, including the former Beatles and Wings star, select songs from their back catalogues and choose present-day artists to cover the tracks.

Other legendary artists selecting songs for the album include David Bowie, Bob Dylan, Brian Wilson and the Clash.

Heroes is scheduled to be released on Nov. 22.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Franz Ferdinand's new album almost complete

MUSIC Scottish rockers Franz Ferdinand have almost finished work on their "sinister youthful" new album, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The band has been in the studio for almost two years working on the follow up to 2005's You Could Have It So Much Better and now frontman Alex Kapranos says the album is nearly ready.

"The album is finished but there is a little bit of mixing left, a lot of which is being done by Mike Fraser, who's known for doing a lot of heavier rock stuff like Aerosmith and AC/DC."

Admitting the band's new songs are much darker lyrically than their previous material, Kapranos promised the tracks will still be high-energy. Franz Ferdinand are scheduled to release their as-yet untitled new album in January.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Producer dazzles the Killers on new LP

MUSIC The Killers have revealed they decided to work with producer Stuart Price after they recorded their new single, Human, in a snap, Ananova.com reports.

Price, who helmed Madonna's Confessions On a Dancefloor, impressed the Las Vegas band so much with his vision for the lead single that they collared him for the entire LP.

"We'd provide the meat and potatoes and Stuart would add the landscapes and galaxy that surrounds it," frontman Brandon Flowers told the Daily Star. "We just knew it sounded so good. We did it and we just couldn't tamper with it at all, 'cause it just sounded perfect."

After Price convinced the band to include strings and steel drums to the followup to Sam's Town, it was only a matter of time before a saxophone solo was suggested.

"Some people laugh at sax solos, but we just said, 'F–k it,'" Flowers added.

The Killers' new album, Day and Age, is set to be released Nov. 24.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Ford finishes up first film

MOVIES Fashion designer Tom Ford is finally going to see his dream come true, E! News Online reports.

Ford is putting the final touches on his directorial debut of the movie adaptation of Christopher Isherwood's 1964 novel, A Single Man.

Sources say Colin Firth will star as a gay college professor who learns to cope with the sudden death of his lover with the help of a lifelong female friend and one of his students, played by Julianne Moore and Jamie Bell, respectively.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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OSiS+ the art of contradiction.

Emmy hosts offend Leary
Actor/comedian Denis Leary has blasted the reality TV hosts of Sunday night's 60th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards because their lack of comic timing "offended" him. "I was offended as a comedian," he said. IMDB.COM

HBO Canada move lacks boldness

IntelleVision

HBOVER HERE: It seems a day late and a pound short, but the corporate partners behind The Movie Network and Movie Central here in Canada are adding HBO Canada to their cable offerings.

The new channel is available to anyone already subscribing to the two other channels, and is designed to feature the full menu of HBO programming, and not just the shows that have already been offered individually here — hit shows like Sex and the City, Deadwood and The Sopranos, or current ones like Entourage, True Blood, Flight Of The Conchords and In Treatment.

HBO Canada will launch next month, and will round out the network's current shows with HBO programming that only arrives here on DVD or after a long delay on basic cable — the sports events, comedy, documentaries and concerts that were once the network's bread and butter, as well as rebroadcasts from HBO's library, which will probably include miniseries and movies such as Angels In America, From The Earth To The Moon and Oz.

The new channel is not a partnership — HBO does not have any ownership stake in the new channel, according to a press release — but rather Astral Media and Corus Entertainment have expanded their deal with the U.S. network, which will also see more HBO content appearing on their On Demand channels.

This would have been a big, bold move two or three years ago, when HBO's brand was white hot, but right now it looks more like Corus and Astral are doing HBO the favour, and not the other way around. The U.S. network has had its thunder stolen by its once-marginal competitors since The Sopranos made its halting

The Sopranos

march to its finale; that last episode, with its abrupt, ambiguous ending, turned out to be prescient, as HBO's profile seemed to diminish just as sharply, though its reputation lingers in a stubborn half-life.

HBO did very well at Sunday's Emmys, picking up a bale of awards for shows like Entourage, In Treatment and especially John Adams, but the relevance of those accolades is debatable when the show pulled its lowest ratings ever — just 12.2 million viewers — and drew an avalanche of critical brickbats for its leaden pacing and disastrous hosting gimmick.

Until HBO can hoist its standard on a couple of new flagship shows, its public image will increasingly revert to the broad but host of offerings it was famous for during most of its early history — the 25-plus years between its low-profile debut in the heyday of network television until those fateful nights when Carrie Bradshaw tripped down a Manhattan sidewalk in her unfeasibly high heels and Tony Soprano padded out to the end of his driveway to pick up his morning paper.

Since enjoying my job is largely dependent on there being more decent stuff to watch, I certainly hope HBO can pull this off, but until then the success of its new Canadian client will be measured strictly on a show-by-show basis.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

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LGBT characters stepping out of TV closet

TELEVISION The number of gay and lesbian TV characters on the broadcast networks will double to an all-time high this season.

There will be 16 regular characters on major-network scripted series this season who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender, according to an annual survey conducted by the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation.

That's more than twice as many as last year and the most ever in the 13 years that GLAAD has been doing the study. The figures also reverse a trend toward declining LGBT representation on broadcast television over the past two years. The number of nonrecurring LGBT characters also is rising this year, up from 13 last season to 19.

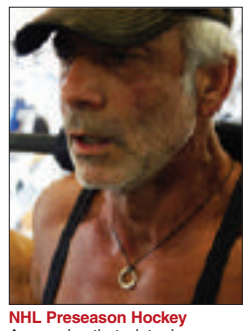
"This dramatic increase shows how far many networks have come in developing complex, multilayered lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender characters," GLAAD president Neil Giuliano said.

Fox is the most-improved network, according to the survey. At the start of last season, the network had no LGBT characters; this year, it will have five — the most of any network. REUTERS

OT	Vu	SC	C		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 9/24/08	265	353	2	TVO	Life in Cold Blood		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		The View From Here (N)			View From Hr	Agenda-Paikin
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Bones (HDTV PA) (N)		NCIS (N)		Crime Stories (N)		News (N)
	-	-	5	SRC	Virginie (SC)	L'Épicerie	Le Match des étoiles (SC)		Tous Pour Un (HDTV) (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		La Zone
	209	342	6	CHRO	Robson Arms	TMZ (N)	America's Next Top Model (N)		America's Got Talent		Cold Case		News
	196	311	7	CTV	Hollywood	eTalk	Dancing With the Stars		Criminal Minds (N)		CSI: NY "Veritas" (N)		News (N)
	208	303	8	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Little Mosque	Sophie (HDTV)	CBC News: the fifth estate		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	-	360	9	NBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Knight Rider (N)		America's Got Talent		Lipstick Jungle (N)		News (N)
	117	713	10	TVA	Qui a tué?	Poule-oeufs or	Destinées "La Faille" (SC)		Les Soeurs Elliot (N) (SC)		TVA 22 heures	(10:45) Denis Lévesque	
	-	-	11	QS	Chemin du golf	*Le Combat du lieutenant Hart* ★★ (2002, Guerre) Bruce Willis. (SC)					Cent dix pour cent (SC)		Vie de couple
	137	763	12	TFO	Panorama		Les Citadins du rebut global		*Mifune* ★★ (1999, Com. dramatique) Anders W. Berthelsen.				Enfants
	-	362	13	CBS	Dr. Phil (HDTV) (N)		Old Christine	Gary Unmarr	Criminal Minds (N)		CSI: NY "Veritas" (N)		Two-Half Men
	216	395	14	OMN2	Cold Case "Willkommen"		News (N)		News (N)		2Half Men	King	Cold Case
	214	344	15	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Make Me a Supermodel		Rock of Love-Bret Michaels		Lipstick Jungle (N)		News (N)
	115	343	16	CFMT	2Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere Il	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	218	345	18	E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	Knight Rider (N)		Deal or No Deal		True Hollywood Story (N)		News (N)
	-	361	20	ABC	News (N)	Entertainment	Dancing With the Stars		David Blaine Dive of Death (HDTV) (Live)				News (N)
	512	396	24	CPAC	Revue Politique		L'Heure politique		Sur la piste électorale		Sur la piste électorale		Tournée
	651	355	25	CTS	Happy Days	Laverne	Michael Coren Show		100 Huntley Street		Life Today	This Is Day	John Hagee
	-	365	36	FOX	TMZ (N)	Seinfeld	Bones (HDTV PA) (N)		'Til Death	Do Not Disturb	News (N)		News
	-	-	64	PBS	Business Rpt.	Drum TV	Killer Stress: National		American Masters (N)				Tavis Smiley
	205	312	104	CTV	Hollywood	eTalk	Dancing With the Stars		Criminal Minds (N)		CSI: NY "Veritas" (N)		News (N)
news	502	390	26	NW	CBC News: Around the World		Canada Votes: Your Turn		CBC News: The National		Monarchy: The Royal Family		National
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		CNN Election Center		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
sports	406	417	27	net	MLB Baseball New York Yankees at Toronto Blue Jays. From Rogers Centre in Toronto.						Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Hockey Central
	126	730	28	RDI	RDI en direct	Élections	Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	400	280	30	TSN	That's Hockey!	NHL Preseason Hockey Toronto Maple Leafs at Pittsburgh Penguins.					SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)		
	410	403	52	SCR	RaceNight						Score Tonight		Hockey Talk
family	411	457	56	OLN	Ed's Up	Videos	The Search "France"		Ed's Up	Adventures	Word Travels	Globe Guides	Pilot Guides
	417	406	59	SC	Pinks (HDTV)	Pass Time	Am. Thunder	Am. Thunder	Pinks (HDTV)	Pinks Outtakes	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pinks (HDTV)
	554	544	48	TEL	George-Jungle	Bugs Bunny & Tweety Show		6teen	Total Drama	Futurama	The Critic (N)	Robot Chicken	Daughter-Devil
	557	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	551	542	65	YTV	Malcolm-Mid.	Home Improve.	Prank Patrol	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Adrenaline Proj	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.
	570	580	29	MM	mmmtop	Popaganda		Back In	Listed "20 Dirty Ditties"		Brooke Knows	Revival	Party of Five
cable variety	615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Criss Angel Mindfreak		Criss Angel
	628	584	32	SPKE	CSI: NY "The Ride-In"		CSI: NY (HDTV)		UFC Unleashed (N)		The Ultimate Fighter (N)		MANswers (N)
	521	560	34	TLC	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	My Unique Family		Jon & Kate
	145	761	35	TV5	Toute une histoire		*Tout pour plaire* ★★★ (2005, Comédie)			La 25ème im	Partir	Facteur	Journal TV5
	616	521	39	SHO	Kink in Hair	Kink in Hair	Billable Hours	Billable Hours	Durham County		The Riches (HDTV)		House
	620	523	40	BVO	Desperate Housewives		Berkeley	Bravo!Videos	Wingfield	The Letters		The Achievers	Law & Order
	520	505	42	DIS	Daily Planet (N)		Cash Cab (N)	Factory Made	Monster Moves (N)		Mayday		Daily Planet
	575	583	43	CMT	CMT30	Totally	Beyond Chance		Reba	Hope & Faith	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Jason McCoy
	601	562	45	SLC	End of Leash	ET Canada	X-Weighted		Work Out		Inside Hollywood		X-Weighted
	625	548	46	COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Lewis Black	RENO 911! (N)	Daily Show
	294	529	47	TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	*Blade II* ★★ (2002, Horror) Wesley Snipes, Ron Perlman.				Family Guy	Family Guy	Friends
	600	564	49	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Property Shop	Big City Broker	Property Virgin	Unsellable	Flipping Out		Holmes-Homes
	627	528	50	SPC	Lost		Star Trek: Deep Space Nine		Battlestar Galactica		Ghost Hunters International (N)		Stargate SG-1
	581	566	53	MTV	Busted	After	Canada's Next Top Model		Paris Casting Special		Real World-Road Rules		MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	Beverly Hills, 90210		Reality	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	'70s Show	Family Guy
	522	506	55	HIS	NCIS "Skeletons"		Cities of the Underworld		Robin Hood-Outlaw Hero		NCIS "Skeletons"		Jetman
	129	773	60	CD	Biographies "Ashton Kutcher"		La Vie après la mort (HDTV)		Université	Paranormales	Affaires classées (HDTV)		C'est incroy
	261	394	61	V	Murder, She Wrote		Chambers	No Place Like	Darling Buds of May		Festival of	Building Faith	Meet-Sumdees
	602	567	62	W	Will & Grace	Friends	Grocery	What You Eat	Supersize vs. Superskinny (N)		Gok's Fashion Fix (N)		Style by Jury
	269	350	70	APTN	Canadian Geographic		Reel Insights Houston.		The Journey Richard Peter.		Tribal Treks	Guides	Wings-Canada
	621	527	71	TLK	The Ellen DeGeneres Show		TMZ (N)	eTalk	Paris Casting Special		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		TMZ
	603	561	95	FN	Road Grill	Licence to Grill	Restaurant Makeover		Iron Chef America		Jamie's Australian Diary		Challenge

critics'corner

The View From Here
You'd be embarrassed, too, if you had a father pushing 60 who liked to strut around onstage nearly naked. But filmmaker Bryan Friedman has set aside his embarrassment long enough to turn the camera on his estranged father, competitive bodybuilder Bill Friedman, as he attempts to regain the world championship title in his age group. Along the way, Bryan gains some new understanding of his father in "The Bodybuilder and I." 9 PM on 2 TVO



NHL Preseason Hockey
A sure sign that winter is on the way are the first games on ice, and it comes this week in the form of two NHL preseason games on TSN. The first tonight pits Sidney Crosby and the Pittsburgh Penguins against Jason Blake and the visiting Toronto Maple Leafs. The Leafs will unveil as many as 10 new faces this season, among them goaltender Curtis Joseph and possibly top draft pick Luke Schenn. Tomorrow night, the Phoenix Coyotes visit the Calgary Flames. 7:30 PM on 30 TSN

Jonny Lee expecting first child

Jonny Lee Miller of TV's Eli Stone and his wife Michele Hicks are expecting their first child, according to the actor's rep. The couple wed earlier this year. **PEOPLE.COM**

Celebrity Buzz

Renée talks about breast cancer scare

HEALTH Renée Zellweger has opened up about her breast cancer scare, which threatened to halt her career after the success of Jerry Maguire, imdb.com reports.

The actress reveals she found two small masses in her right breast during a self examination in 1996 and decided to get them checked out.

Zellweger, who lost her grandmother to cancer in 1969, recalls, "I thought, 'Oh, I know what you do now. You find out what that is. So I went and found out."

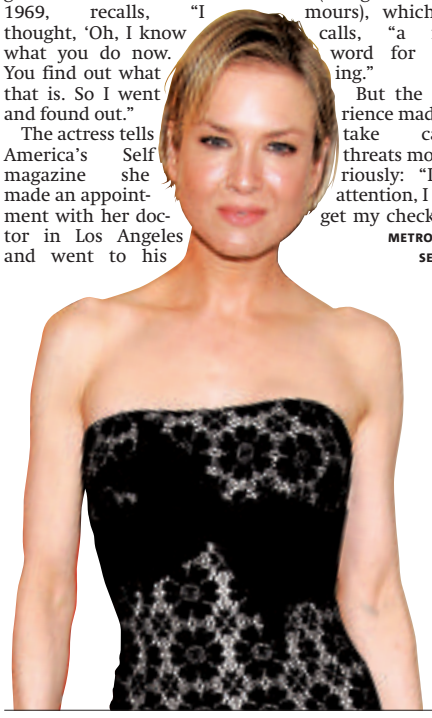
The actress tells America's Self magazine she made an appointment with her doctor in Los Angeles and went to his clinic with a no-nonsense attitude.

"I was like, 'Let's just have it over with. Get in there, stab away, get your little crunchy bit or whatever you're looking for, put it in the mail and we'll call it a day,'" she adds. "Then I had a weird couple of days waiting for the phone call."

Zellweger eventually discovered she had fibroadenomas (benign breast tumours), which she calls, "a fancy word for nothing."

But the experience made her take cancer threats more seriously: "I pay attention, I do go get my checkups."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Spears pics probe

PRIVACY Police in Louisiana are hunting a store worker who has allegedly tried to sell private photographs from the Spears family album, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Snaps of new mom Jamie Lynn Spears breast feeding her three-month-old daughter Maddie have been offered to the media.

The collection of photographs also includes pop star older sister Britney holding her niece alongside her parents around Jamie Lynn's hospital bed shortly after the teenager gave birth.

Reports claim the photographs were taken on Jamie Lynn's boyfriend Casey Aldridge's camera before he took the camera card to a local store, but extra copies were made by a male employee.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Jodie filming reality show

CAREER Jodie Sweetin is taking the "rock 'n' roll" approach to getting back on the small screen, People.com reports.

"My husband and I are now shooting our reality show, which is going to be really fun," Sweetin said. "It's following us and our new baby."

Explained the former Full House star, "Kind of like a Tori & Dean vibe, but we're a little more rock and roll. We're a little edgier," with a laugh.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Gwyneth starts lifestyle site

ONLINE Academy Award winning actress Gwyneth Paltrow has launched her own lifestyle website, Goop by Gwyneth Paltrow, usmagazine.com reports.

Each of the sections, which include "Make," "Go," "Get," "Do," "Be," and "See," feature an essay written by Paltrow.

"My life is good because I am not passive about it," Paltrow writes.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

DeAnna wedding plans

COUPLE When it comes to weddings, The Bachelorette's engaged couple DeAnna Pappas and Jesse Csincsak are thinking small, People.com reports.

"We've gone from about 400 people, and we're breaking it down," DeAnna Pappas told PEOPLE at Saturday's L.A. Confidential pre-Emmy party in Hollywood. "I think we want to enjoy ourselves and our day versus having to talk to a bunch of people all day long. So, we're dwindling it down."

With a wedding date set for May 9, 2009, the couple says they are at square one with planning. "I don't know how people plan a wedding," Pappas, 26, said.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Victoria slams baby rumour

PEOPLE Victoria Beckham has scotched rumours she is desperately trying for a fourth child with husband David, the Daily Mail reports.

The former Spice Girl claims she's too busy working on her burgeoning fashion line to even consider getting pregnant for another two years.

"I'm not even trying to get pregnant at the moment," she told Britain's The Sun. "I don't want another baby for two years because I'm working so hard on my fashion business. I haven't got time. Yes, we would like another child but it won't be for a couple of years yet."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Evacuation irks bare-faced Pam

PEOPLE Pamela Anderson was "mortified" when she had to evacuate a hotel without any makeup on, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The former Baywatch actress was forced to leave her five-star Paris hotel looking less than glamorous at 9 a.m. after firefighters were called to deal with a suspected gas leak.

Anderson was so distraught at the prospect of being seen with a natural face she reportedly even asked firefighters to help her leave through a secluded entrance, but her request was denied.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

"This makes no sense at all..."

by Joe O'Neill

So Louisiana police are hot on the trail of a store worker for allegedly trying to sell photographs of **Jamie Lynn Spears** breastfeeding her baby. Isn't it sort of understood that one of the fringe benefits of working in a photo booth at Wal-Mart, besides being able to wallpaper your bedroom with pictures of every attractive woman in your hometown, is the opportunity of selling to the highest bidder copies of the private pictures belonging to any celebrity too cheap to have an ink-jet printer at home?

People really ought to go to jail over this one, especially the guy who stole the photos, the person who buys them, and anyone who actually cares about Jamie Lynn Spears and **Casey Aldridge**.

It's pretty sleazy, and probably illegal in most states, to look at photos of a 17-year old girl breastfeeding her child, but I doubt I'm the only one who's wondering whether Jamie Lynn squirts milk or Mountain Dew.

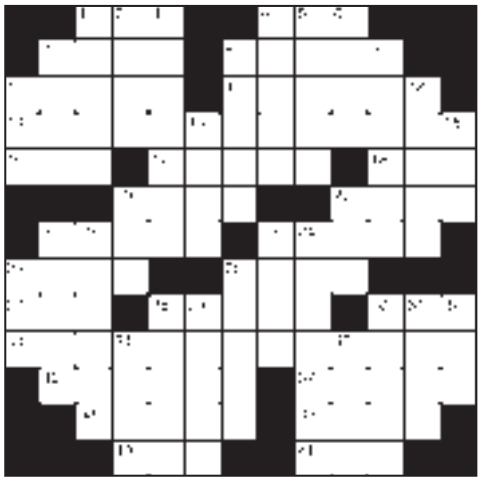
Of course the real danger here is that if these pictures get out, it will spoil the surprise of seeing them for the first time in The Family Spears' Season's Greetins Togetherness Christmas Calendar, sure to be a hot seller later this year. Other calendar highlights include Jamie Lynn hitting a car seat with an fly swatter (March), Casey Aldridge teaching Britney's kids how to shotgun beers (September), mom Lynn Spears organizing her medication (February), and Brit flashing Santa Clause (December).

NEWSDESK@METRONEWS.CA

The Weather Network
©The Weather Network 2008

Today Sunny 23° / 7°
Thursday Partly cloudy 23° / 9°
Friday Variable 21° / 15°

Take Five



Crossword across

1 Young bloke
4 Lavatory sign
7 Go sightseeing
8 Fills the cargo hold
10 Cognizant
11 One
1 3Joseph, Kevin and Nicholas
16 Donkey
17 Prognosticators
18 Dead heat
19 One of the 4-H Club's H's
20 Citi Field forerunner
21 Disdain
23 Bowlers' milieu
25 Son of Odin
26 Poultry
27 Mess up
28 Where to find Augusta
30 Greek cross
33 Dianne, Peggy, Kathy and Janet
36 Affluence
37 Speechify
38 "The best-laid schemes o' mice an' men gang aft —"
39 Church service
40 Method (Abbr.)
41 CBS logo

Crossword down

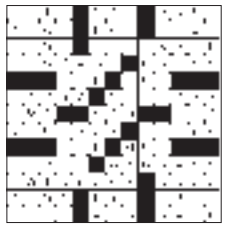
1 Bank transactions
2 Emanation
3 Bureau
4 Estate house
5 Tends texts
6 Benelux nation (Abbr.)
7 Pairs
8 Enticed
9 Boil slowly
10 "Mirrors" director Alexandre
12 Desiccates
14 Noggin
15 Red or Black
19 Perp. to vert.
20 Mr. Bill's home, briefly
21 Termagant
22 Part of 41-Across
23 Actress Anderson
24 "Radical, dude!"
25 Aviv lead-in
26 Arousing suspicion
28 Pitcher for the Yankees?
29 Initial stakes
30 Rib
31 Crafts' mates
32 Work with
34 Kvetches
35 Salver

Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	2							7
			4	9	6			2
6					2	8	3	
	4				7			
		6				1		
			2				5	
	5	2	7					1
4			8	6	1			
3							9	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



7	2	6	5	4	1	3	8	9
5	8	4	3	9	6	7	1	2
3	1	9	7	8	2	4	6	5
8	3	5	6	2	4	1	9	7
2	4	1	9	7	8	5	3	6
9	6	7	1	5	3	8	2	4
1	7	2	8	6	5	9	4	3
6	9	3	4	1	7	2	5	8
4	5	8	2	3	9	6	7	1

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SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min.....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Recipe of the day

COOK SMART FOR A HEALTHY HEART

Barbecued Shrimp with Mustard Dipping Sauce

Treat yourself to skewers of juicy shrimp in an exotically spiced marinade.

INGREDIENTS:
3 tablespoons Dijon mustard
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
2 teaspoons ground coriander
2 teaspoons ground cumin
1/2 teaspoon pepper
24 large raw shrimp, peeled and deveined

METHOD:
1. To make the mustard dipping sauce, stir together the mustard, lemon juice, 1/2 teaspoon coriander, 1/2 teaspoon cumin and 1/4 teaspoon pepper in a small bowl. Set aside.

2. Combine the remaining 1 1/2 teaspoons coriander, 1 1/2 teaspoons cumin and 1/4 teaspoon pepper in a large bowl. Add the shrimp, tossing to coat.

3. Preheat the barbecue. Thread the shrimp onto four long skewers. Place the shrimp on the barbecue and cook until opaque throughout, about 1 minute per side. Serve at room temperature or chilled, with the mustard dipping sauce.

Nutrients per serving: calories 111, carbohydrate 1g, protein 23g, total fat 2g (saturated fat 0.3g)

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
There'll be encounters with a special person. A sweet girl is too unstable to support you. There's a need for privacy for a mature friend.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Preoccupation with other people's intentions develops. Refuse to interfere between relatives. A buddy reveals a different approach.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
An older friend feels touchier than usual. A minor mishap works out for a manipulator. A brand new toy brings joy to a woman.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
A burden will be lifted when someone demands submission. You'll create some confusion. Anguish about family obligations will ease.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
A biased person is forced to give you a call. Don't do anything about spiteful gossip. A financial hardship is temporary.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Don't try to rush anything. Take advantage of feeling balanced. Watch carefully for signs of disgruntlement.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Security comes up in an emotional debate. Desperate times call for extreme methods. A chatty co-worker has overindulged in caffeine.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Something you were told is not really true. Someone is leaving you to do the dirty work. A death creates delay and confusion.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
Overcome obstacles by asserting your personality. Don't get miffed with a parent. You'll experience good results with unusual associations.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
Responsibility weighs heavily on your mind. A surreptitious conversation takes place. Sensitivity to another person's insincerity is disclosed.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
There's a happy surprise at a dull social event. Be aware of a romantic newcomer. An absent person is meeting with an older man.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Your impulses are challenged by someone. Listen in on a chat to be entertained. A savage beast helps you get through the day.

This day in history

SEPT. 24, 1789: The office of the Attorney General of the United States of America, and the United States Post Office Department are established.
SEPT. 24, 1869: "Black Friday": Gold prices plummet after Ulysses S. Grant orders the Treasury to sell large quantities of gold after Jay Gould and James Fisk plot to control the market.
SEPT. 24, 1890: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints officially renounces polygamy.
SEPT. 24, 1948: The Honda Motor Company is founded.
SEPT. 24, 1957: Camp Nou, the largest stadium in Europe, is opened in Barcelona.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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2008 GL Sport model shown

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*Approximate distance based on highway mileage for 2008 model.

Elantra L

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2008 CASH PURCHASE PRICE
$2,850 Cash Purchase Adjustment

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$198** at 3.3% APR
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Delivery & Destination incl.

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USE LESS & SAVE
GO 883 KM ON ONE TANK*
HWY 6.0L/100KM • 47 MPG†
CITY 8.4L/100KM • 34 MPG†
*Approximate distance based on highway mileage for 2008 model.

2008 Limited model shown

Tucson L

2008 Limited 4WD model shown

SMART TO BUY.

$16,995♦
2008 CASH PURCHASE PRICE
$4,200 Cash Purchase Adjustment

SMART TO LEASE.

Lease a 2009 from
$232** at 2.5% APR
per mo./48 mos. $3,221 Down Payment
Delivery & Destination incl.

SMART ON GAS.

USE LESS & SAVE
GO 744 KM ON ONE TANK*
HWY 7.8L/100KM • 36 MPG†
CITY 10.4L/100KM • 27 MPG†
*Approximate distance based on highway mileage for 2008 model.

Sonata GL

SMART TO BUY.

$17,995♦
2009 CASH PURCHASE PRICE
$4,000 Cash Purchase Adjustment

SMART TO LEASE.

Lease a 2009 from
$299** at 0% Nominal Lease Rate
per mo./48 mos. $0 Down Payment
Delivery and Destination incl.
For info. only 7.05%** Effective Lease Rate For 48 months

SMART ON GAS.

USE LESS & SAVE
GO 1081 KM ON ONE TANK*
HWY 6.2L/100KM • 46 MPG†
CITY 9.5L/100KM • 30 MPG†
*Approximate distance based on highway mileage for 2009 automatic model.

2009 Limited model shown

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GRADUATE REBATE PROGRAM

*The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trade marks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp., and used under licence. ♦Cash purchase price adjustments are for cash purchases only and are calculated against the lease/finance starting price. Cash purchase price adjustments are available on all 2006 Accent of $3,600/2006 Elantra of $2,850/2006 Tucson L of $4,200/2009 Sonata Limited of $4,000, $6,000 cash purchase adjustments are available on 2006 Azera and Veracruz models. Cash purchase price for models shown: 2006 Accent Sport automatic 2008 Elantra Limited/2008 Tucson Limited/2009 Sonata Limited of $13,895/$20,345/$26,495/$27,495. Delivery and Destination charges of $1,345/$1,345/$1,610/$1,415 are not included. Registration, insurance, licence fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. **Leasing ($1,345/$1,345/$1,610). Lease offers exclude applicable licence fees, insurance, registration, PPSA ($45) and taxes. $0 security deposit on all models. 20,000 km allowance per year applies. Additional charge of $0.10/km. Delivery and Destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. Effective lease rates are partially based on the cash purchase adjustment (ineligible by leasing). Nominal lease rate is based on interest charges only. Leasing offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on a new 2009 Sonata GL 5-speed with a nominal lease rate of 0% and effective lease rate of 7.05%. Monthly payment is $299 per month for a 48 month walk-away lease. Down Payment of $0 and first monthly payment required. Total lease obligation is $14,352. Lease offers include Delivery and Destination ($1,610). Lease offers exclude licence